

Maryland's Medicaid's §1115 HealthChoice Waiver Assistance in Community Integration Services (ACIS) Community Health Pilot

Summary

As part of Maryland's §1115 HealthChoice Waiver Renewal, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) offered local governments the opportunity to request matching federal funds for the Assistance in Community Integration Services (ACIS) Pilot. Each ACIS Pilot program will be managed locally by a lead local governmental entity (Lead Entity) that has the ability to fund fifty percent of total ACIS Pilot costs with local dollars, provide leadership, and coordinate with key community partners to implement the Pilot. Each Lead Entity may also identify other entities that will participate and assist the Lead Entity in providing services in the ACIS Pilot (Participating Entities).

Funding Opportunity

ACIS Pilot funding was available beginning July 1, 2017 and is effective through December 31, 2026. Specifically, up to \$3.6 million in matching federal financial funds are available annually. When combined with the local non-federal share, ACIS pilot expenditures may total up to \$7.2 million annually. ACIS Pilots are required to report on performance measures and share data for evaluation purposes in order to receive funding.

Target Population

The intent of the ACIS Pilot is to provide tenancy-based case management services/tenancy support services, and housing case management services to a population that meets the needs-based criteria specified below, capped at 900 individuals annually. The state's needs based criteria are specified below:

1. Health criteria (at least one)
 - a. Repeated incidents of emergency department (ED) use (defined as more than 4 visits per year) or hospital admissions; or
 - b. Two or more chronic conditions as defined in Section 1945(h) (2) of the Social Security Act.

2. Housing Criteria (at least one)
 - a. Individuals who will experience homelessness upon release from the settings defined in 24 CFR 578.3; or
 - b. Those at imminent risk of institutional placement.

Funding Update

- December 2017- MDH approved three local government jurisdictions for federal matching funds in support of the ACIS Pilot. The Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Human Services, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, and Cecil County Health Department were approved for funding to serve up to 200 Medicaid eligible beneficiaries in total.

Updated Jun 27, 2022

ACIS Pilot Executive Summary

- January 2018- MDH issued a second round of ACIS Pilot Request for Applications (RFA), including an updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document, anticipating that additional awards for new Pilots and Pilot expansions would go into effect in July 2018. In April 2018, MDH approved Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services to serve an additional 35 individuals, and the Prince George's County Health Department to serve 75 individuals.
- July 2018- MDH submitted a §1115 Waiver Amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in part requesting an additional 300 participant places for the ACIS Pilot. CMS approved the request for additional ACIS Pilot places in April 2019, bringing the total statewide cap to 600 individuals.
- May 1, 2019- MDH issued a third round of ACIS Pilot Request for Applications (RFA), including an updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document. In July 2019, MDH approved the Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Human Services to serve an additional 100 individuals.
- August 9, 2019- MDH changed the ACIS Pilot application process to a rolling basis until the remaining 290 statewide ACIS participant spaces have been awarded. In July 2021, MDH approved Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services to serve an additional 10 individuals,
- January 2022- MDH was approved under a new §1115 Waiver that allowed and funded additional ACIS participant spaces, raising the statewide total to 900 spaces. Beginning in July 2022, the Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Homeless Services has been awarded 300 participant spaces, the Cecil County Health Department has been awarded 15 participant spaces, the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services has been awarded 230 participant spaces and the Prince George's County Health Department has been awarded 75 spaces. Currently, the remaining 280 ACIS participant spaces are available through an open application process. This current waiver is effective through December 31, 2026.